

SMOKE SIGNALS

Volume 38/Number 5 December 2004



Happy Holidays

Administration's Message

Dear Residents,

With the joy of the Holiday Season upon us, let us reaffirm what really is important in life — a reaffirmation of the commitment to our children, our neighbors, our community and ourselves that we, as one united community, will strive to be the very best that we can be. A community of sharing and of caring.

The local news over the past 7 months has been consumed with the auction sale of Timber Trails and the ongoing aftermath.

On November 22, 2004, the following letter was dispatched to Dartmoor Homes, the new owners of Timber Trails. In essence, the letter echoed the sentiment of this Administration that Indian Head Park will never support a vision of Timber Trails that even remotely approaches some monstrosity of bricks and nails. The day after receiving our letter on November 23, 2004, Dartmoor Homes filed its intent to petition to annex to Western Springs.

As such, in the interest of facilitating an informed citizenry, the letter is set out in full:

Village of Indian Head Park
201 Acacia Drive
Indian Head Park, IL 60525

November 22, 2004

Via Facsimile

Dartmoor Homes
Mr. Patrick Taylor

Dear Mr. Taylor:

Since your presentation at our last Village board meeting, I have had an opportunity to confer with each of our Trustees on an individual basis and receive their analysis and recommendations regarding your concept for Timber Trails. As Mayor/Village President of Indian Head Park, I believe it prudent to share that information with you at this time. Please understand that the following is being conveyed for informational purposes only; it does not constitute a formal decision by the Village corporate authorities and of course does not (and indeed cannot) substitute for the public hearing process and formal board action that would be required prior to any annexation. In this regard, there is no support for your concept as proposed, relative to density or mixed use site placement. Therefore, any timetable for establishing the requisite publications and

public hearings would be imprudently premature.

At this point, let me state unequivocally that it is the sentiment of the Indian Head Park Administration that Timber Trails belongs in Indian Head Park. However, the unique and aesthetic character of the land must be sculpted in a fashion that reflects the essence of what Indian Head Park has envisioned itself to be. We will not diminish our community fabric simply to "win" the annexation competition.

Accordingly, we will remain anxious to see your revised plan; a revised plan that more closely resembles the ideal delineated in our Comprehensive Plan. We believe that lower density, higher-end unit pricing would allow Dartmoor profitability while at the same time create a "signature" development for our region. Obviously, the trees must be preserved and protected during all phases of construction.

On a collateral note, please let me relate to you some specifically creative suggestions, gleaned from the individual perspectives of our Trustees; fully hoping that our Village will not be viewed as being too presumptuous prior to its selection. They are as follows:

Should our Comprehensive Plan be modified, any townhomes must be relocated to a less obtrusive site in order to avoid a "barricade" effect. Great care and consideration must be given to all visual aspects of the Plainfield Road corridor. (As well as the corners of Wolf and Wolf Road in general).

Sound wall placement and technologies must be fully explored in relation to the proximity of the development to the Tollway.

Not only must a certified arborist oversee all aspects of development, but a credentialed archaeologist should also be utilized to oversee the totality of site development to ensure the integrity of our Native American and early European Settler history and culture.

Impact discussions in relation to Highlands Elementary School District #106 might include, in addition to a specific dollar amount, an endowment which could allow the school district to contract for the outsourcing of local school bus service. This would facilitate child pedestrian safety as well as lessening traffic congestion during the

continued on page 2

Message continued from page 1

peak morning and afternoon hours. Additionally, to enhance child comfort and safety, Dartmoor could provide warming shelters for children in various locations throughout the school district while they wait for the bus.

In addition to greater lot area size, greater lot widths would meet with greater support.

From a recreational standpoint, a splash-park and ice skating pond are two activities which are lacking in the community.

Your proposed street alignments as they relate to existing streets on Plainfield Road and Wolf Road are a matter of concern.

Has Dartmoor considered establishing a sidewalk on the south side of Plainfield Road which would promote pedestrian safety given the additional traffic? (Indian Head Park has police jurisdiction for Plainfield Road).

Has Dartmoor considered a zero lot line component of luxury, ranch style homes for empty-nesters?

In conclusion, quite candidly, we had hoped that Dartmoor would have already made a decision concerning annexation. Although we are in no way suggesting that Dartmoor is attempting to leverage one municipality against another, the circumstances since the auction have, in some circles, facilitated this perception. In this regard, Dartmoor may wish to encourage a boundary agreement between Indian Head Park and Western Springs which fairly compensates Western Springs for impact; but most importantly, would allow Western Springs a "seat" at the table concerning the development. This could remove even the appearance of a competition perceived to be potentially detrimental to the entire region.

Again, please understand that the above analysis and comments, even if fully met by Dartmoor, are in no way to be construed as conclusive or a guarantee of how Indian Head Park public officials would vote pursuant to a public hearing process. At this point, the above is merely conver-

sation. As such, by providing you with some expeditious feedback, we hope that you will be able to make a more informed and speedy choice. We hope that choice will be the Village of Indian Head Park.

Warmest Personal Regards,
Mayor Richard F. Pellegrino

(Transmitted by facsimile on 11/22/04)

Pc: Village of Western Springs

Dr. Arlene Armanetti, Superintendent,
Highlands School District #106

Dr. Dennis Kelly, Superintendent,
Lyons Township High School #204

Dan Hermes, Fire Chief,
Pleasantview Fire Protection District

Although the decision to annex Timber Trails into Western Springs has been made, the vigilance of your Village Administration continues. We will remain guarded and watchful concerning our environment, our quality of life and the impact that Timber Trails will have on the future of Indian Head Park. We trust that our northern neighbors and their public officials will hold Dartmoor Homes to the same regional approach and the high standards that we in Indian Head Park have held for ourselves.

Let us now return to the importance of the season. May the Holidays rekindle the spirit of joy, happiness and gratitude for all of our blessings.

In behalf of your entire Village Administration, let me wish you a healthy and prosperous Holiday Season and may the New Year be especially good to all of you and to those that you love.

Thanking you, once again, for the privilege of serving as your Mayor, I remain,

Sincerely,

Richard F. Pellegrino

Smoke Signals

Newsletter Coordinator, Kathy Leach
(708) 246-7099, extension 101
kleach@indianheadpark-il.gov

Volume 38, Number 5

Circulation 2000

Smoke Signals is published by the Village of Indian Head Park to inform its residents of present activities in the village and the ever-growing plans for the future in the pursuit of better government and good citizenship.

Teepee Topics news items should be submitted to the Newsletter Coordinator at the Municipal Offices.

Full page advertisements - \$200.00, 1/2 page advertisements - \$125.00, 3 1/2" x 3 1/2" size advertisements - \$75.00, business card size advertisements - \$45.00, trading post advertisements - \$20.00 (no commercial advertisements - the advertisement will run two times at no cost, then a \$20.00 charge).

Extra copies and back issues (up to one year) of *Smoke Signals* can be obtained at the Village Hall.

Deadline date for the next issue is January 14, 2005.

VILLAGE OF INDIAN HEAD PARK

201 Acacia Drive, Indian Head Park, IL 60525
(708) 246-3080
www.indianheadpark-il.gov

Office Hours

Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays

Mayor: Richard F. Pellegrino

Trustees: Richard S. Andrews Carol Coleman
Deborah A. Anselmo Joseph Reda, MD
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Village Clerk: Norman Schnaufer

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and Public Safety: Wayne P. Grane

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Emergency 9-1-1

Fire Dept. Non-Emergency 352-9229

Emergency 9-1-1

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Indian Head Park Woman's Club

The Indian Head Park Woman's Club meeting will be held on January 18th at the Village Hall at 201 Acacia Drive at 7:00 P.M. This meeting sounds like it could become a favorite since the topic is Interior Redesigner and is the most affordable way to get a new look for your home. The great thing about redesigning is if you don't like it, all can be put back. The definition of "Interior Redesigner" is using your existing furnishings and accessories to transform your home in an innovative way. LaGrange Park resident Amy Scott, first started out by transforming what initially was a hobby into a professional interior redesigning business. Scott's first appointment is the viewing of your home in its current condition. Problems and solutions are discussed as well as thoughts and ideas. If the client supports the creative blending of the old with the new, future appointments would be arranged. Scott will redesign a room for about \$100-\$200, depending on how long the work takes. If you would like to discuss with Scott what she can do for you, her number is (708) 354-2812 or better yet come to our January meeting. A unique Christmas gift would be a gift certificate for Scott's services available in \$50 increments.

April 30th 2005 is the day chosen for the Spring Fund Raiser. The luncheon will be held at the Oak Brook Bath and Tennis Club. The tickets will be available for \$35.00. The proceeds from the ticket sales enable the club to present donations to various philanthropy groups currently under consideration. More information will follow as plans progress.

Southwest Suburban Center on Aging News

The Southwest Suburban Center on Aging in LaGrange provides a variety of programs and activities designed to fulfill many social, physical, emotional and intellectual needs for older adults. The Center offers activities such as: ballroom dancing, bridge, computer classes, book reviews, fitness and wellness programs, language classes, oil painting, Pinochle, square dancing and Shuffleboard. For further details, please contact the Center at (708) 354-1323.

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From the Chief's Office Winter Holiday Safety Announcements

On behalf of the Indian Head Park Police Department, we extend warm wishes to you and your families for a safe holiday season. Designate a driver. When attending a party, always designate a non-drinking driver. If you are the host of a holiday gathering, be sure there are non-alcoholic beverages available for guests who will be driving. Buckle Up. During the holiday months, people travel more than ever. Wearing a seat belt is the easiest and best way to prevent injury in a motor vehicle collision. Ensure that all passengers are wearing seat belts. The scene is all too familiar-- frenzied parents rushing through packed-to-the-ceiling aisles searching for the perfect gifts and decorations to celebrate their holiday festivities. With all of the decorating, gift giving and festivities, making your holiday safe for children will be the most important preparation of all. Please have an enjoyable and safe holiday season!

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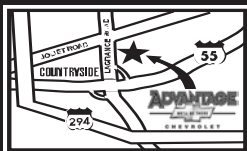
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Student News . . .

Nazareth Academy . . . announced its first quarter Honor Roll. Congratulations to the following students who were named to the honor roll at Nazareth Academy: Cate Gula, Samantha Matkovich, Daniel Pellegrino and Lauren Gula.

Lyons Township High School announced its first quarter Advisory Honor Roll for the 2004-2005 school year. The Advisory Honor Roll is based on quarter work only including mid-term examinations. Listed are freshmen, sophomore, junior, and senior students who live in Indian Head Park who have achieved a grade point average of 3.125 or higher. Congratulations to the following students: Freshmen: Anna Bosy, Courtney Breit, Lauren Brooks, Kevin Campbell, Peggy Condon, Shannon Dominiak, Peter Fiffis, Marjorie Fisher, Karlyn Hilbrich, Robert Johnson, Sarah Johnson, Evan Kriz, Philip Legan, Harley Lonergan, Kelly McNamee, Brian Murphy, Jamie Plzak, David Schmidt, Shannon Toland, Simeon Tzolov, Stephanie Ulfing, Daniel Unger, Antoinette Valenta, Parker Warf, Brittany Yelnick. Sophomores: Brittany Anselmo, Chara Dubin, Jacqueline Dukes, Janice Falotico, Samantha Gregg, Andrea Kovalsky, Francis Lockom, Tyler Metcalf, Jaimie Ove, Rose Phinick, William Rante, Robert Sophie. Juniors: James Austermuehle, Jennifer Bert, David Carlson, Anthony Cefali, Sarah Corbridge, Steven Daar, Julia D'angelo, William Falotico, Mairin Gilmartin, Thea Green, Romain Guerot, Brad Hilbrich, Margaret Jarr, Adam Johnson, Michael Maino, Brett Marley, Kristen Parsell, Diana Rajki, Daniel Raymond, Steven Sholler, Chelsea Strohl, Rachel Stuart, Sarah Stuck, Madeleine Suter, Michael Swarbrick, Andrew Tepavchevich, Michael Unger, Christine Villarreal, Ivan Vujica. Seniors: James Begy, Kristina Bouzios, Derrick Brace, Lisa Brandush, Lindsay Breit, William Cisar, Colleen Creighton, Michael Eckwall, Eleni Hasiakos, Valerie Kovalsky, Talia Kraft, Danielle Legan, Natalie Mikat-Stevens, Gary Novak, Anthony Perrino, Christopher Rajki, John Rante, Kelly Reda, Michelle Roberts, James Snaza, Cynthia Truckenbrodt, Michael Turk, Rudolph Valenta, Jacqueline Vitale, Emily Walter.

Congratulations to the following Lyons Township High School students who earned recognition as Advanced Placement National Scholars, an award granted to students who receive an average grade of 4 or higher on eight or more AP exams. AP exams were offered in 29 disciplines, each consisting of multiple-choice, essay, or problem-solving questions. AP exams are graded on a 1-5 point scale (5 is the highest). Most colleges and universities award credit and/or placement for grades of 3 or higher, and more than 1,300 institutions award one year of credit to students with a sufficient number of qualifying grades. The following awards were given to students from Indian Head Park: **(Scholar)** James Snaza, **(Scholar with Honor)** David D'Angelo; **(Scholar with Distinction)** Andrew Daar and Johnston Suter; **(National Scholar)** Allison Valenta.

Pleasantdale School District #107 . . . Congratulations to the following students who earned honor roll status at Pleasantdale Middle School: Gold Honor Roll (4.0 grade point average): Katelyn Perrino and Bridget Anselmo. Silver Honor Roll (3.75 to 3.99 grade point average): Patrick Hardy, Snjezana Jovanovic and Katherine Bailey. Bronze Honor Roll (3.5 to 3.749 grade point average): Charlotte Mikat-Stevens.



LaGrange Highlands Middle School . . .

Congratulations to the following students who earned honor roll and honorable mentions at LaGrange Highlands Middle School: A grade point average of 3.5 to 4.0 earns honor roll status and a grade point average of 3.0 to 3.49 qualifies for honorable mention: Honor Roll: Timothy Appleyard, Katie Campbell, Vince Cefali, Angelo Christopher, Lauren Countryman, Megan Creighton, Meredith Dost, Justin Gouty, Sam Hasiakos, Madeline Hasler, Jessica Koziel, Lauren Mayer, Molly Minton, Brittney Pitello, Michelle Sangirardi, Paul Schied, Jill Sullivan, Alyssa Whaley, Alice Ziolk, Teresa Begy, Sarah Carlson, Kirsten Conrath, Alisan Goetz, Christina Harazin, Haley Johnson, Katherine Klemchuk, Elena Knetl, Mark Koziel, Anastasia Schied, Willa Skeeahan, Anthony Appleyard, Alison Austermuehle, Veronica Christopher, Jennifer Daar, Jack Gouty, Jacob Heger, Rebecca MacDonald, Nine Madjer, Jessica Manuele, Brianna McNamee, Kathryn Phinick, Mariel Rogozinski, Julie Watkins and Samantha Yelnick. Honorable Mentions: Joey Benson, Grace Fisher, Ben Kabialis, Stephen Kovalsky, Nolan Morris, Samantha Pitello, Renae Rawski, Nikki Romano, Amy Sheneman, Jeremy Carlson, Connor Kriz and Christopher Sargent.

Well Done!!!

A giant standing ovation to all of the children, parents and grandparents who made our Halloween party a huge success!!

Thank you to our volunteers: Trustee Rich Andrews, Trustee Debbie Anselmo, Trustee Anne Bermier, Trustee Carol Coleman, Trustee Matt Walsh, Commissioner Diane Andrews, Jonathan Andrews, Bridget Anselmo, Brittany Anselmo, Joey Pellegrino and Rachel Pellegrino.

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Snow Removal in Indian Head Park

To reduce the hazards of ice and snow on the roads, the Village's Public Works Department will activate the snow removal program during winter storms. The success of the program also relies on residents who routinely cooperate with the department. This cooperation is based on an understanding of how the Village performs the snow removal operation. Here are some answers to commonly asked questions regarding the program:

Q.) How many miles of streets are plowed?

A.) *The Village maintains; approximately 12.3 miles of roadway, primarily two lanes, with 38 cul-de-sacs throughout. State and county routes are maintained by their respective agencies.*

Q.) When are the streets plowed?

A.) *The Village begins an all-out snow plowing operation whenever two to three inches of snow have accumulated. It is the Village's goal to clear all streets within eight hours after the snowfall has ceased, but heavier snow falls take longer to clear. De-icing begins when precipitation (either snow or ice) starts to accumulate and causes unsafe travel. De-icing the streets takes two to three hours.*

Q.) Which streets are cleared first?

A.) *The Village has established a snow plowing priority system in order for main routes to be plowed first. However, hills, curves, intersections and bridges receive number one priority, followed by the main arteries and cul-de-sacs. Once the roadway system is cleared, snow is pushed off the street, curb-to-curb.*

Q.) Why are cul-de-sacs last?

A.) *Cul-de-sacs are the most time consuming streets to plow. On average, it takes 35 minutes to clear a cul-de-sac of snow, which is eight times longer per square yard of pavement. Cul-de-sacs are also more difficult to clear because of the limited space in the parkway to deposit snow without burying driveways, mailboxes, streetlights or fire hydrants.*

Q.) When is it illegal to park on the village streets during a snowfall?

A.) *Whenever a two (2) inch snowfall is exceeded, the Village prohibits parking on every street until the entire roadway system is clear and after the snowfall has ceased. (Village code, Chapter 10.24, Sec. #10.24.010)*

Q.) What can the residents do to help in the snow removal operation?

A.) *Keep ahead of the storm by listening to the Weather Channel, radio, and television for the latest winterstorm watches, warnings and advisories.*

Advise your contractors and/or private individuals not to deposit snow onto public streets in the course of clearing private driveways, parking lots and other areas. This act is potentially dangerous to vehicular traffic and pedestrians, and can adversely affect the safety of the community. Contractors and private individuals should push and plow the snow to one side of a driveway or parking lot. Please do not plow snow onto the public roadway system.

Your cooperation will assure the best service possible during a winter storm.

Ed Santen, Public Works Superintendent

Safe Winter Driving on Illinois Roadways

Winter driving in Illinois presents a wide variety of road conditions.

The Illinois Department of Transportation's Technology Transfer Center, in cooperation with the Village of Indian Head Park Public Works Department, would like to pass along a few simple winter driving tips to make your drive safe while snowplow vehicles are working.

Things You Can Do:

DO watch for plow drivers in town, weaving in and out, pulling the snow from turn bays and parking lanes.

DO use roadside objects as landmarks to become oriented to the highway.

DO stay with your vehicle if you become stranded. Pull as far off the road as possible and turn on the emergency flashers or other lights to be seen by other vehicles. Remove the snow from your headlights and taillights.

DO carry a winter emergency kit in your car. The kit should include an ice scraper/snowbrush, blankets and warm coverings, jumper cables, a basic tool kit, a flashlight with extra batteries, flares or reflectors, a shovel and traction material (sand, kitty litter, old rugs or mats) and a basic first aid kit.

Things Not To Do:

DO NOT overdrive your headlights. Stay within the limits

of your vision. Headlights set on dim usually provide the best visibility.

DO NOT assume you will have good traction because the road looks clear. "Black Ice" and poor visibility can be deceiving. Remember to brake slowly and to reduce your speed during winter driving conditions.

DO NOT plow snow onto Village roadways. Village ordinance requires "No Parking" on any Village street after a two inch snowfall. This increases the cost to residents while making the roadway hazardous.

Always use common sense and good judgment when driving.

Think Safety . . .

Practice good winter driving techniques.

Keep the gas tank full.

Turn the lights on—to see and be seen.

Watch those bridges: they are probably slick.

Bring a cellular telephone in case of an emergency.

Remember . . .

Snowplow drivers are there to make the roads as safe as possible for everyone — not to be in your way!

Additional cold weather information is available at the Municipal Facility at 201 Acacia Drive. Please stop by.

Ed Santen, Public Works Superintendent

Scheduled Meeting Dates

Village Board of Trustees:

Thursday, January 13, 2005 at 7:30 p.m.

Planning and Zoning Commission:

Tuesday, January 4, 2005 at 7:30 p.m.

E-911 Board: Thursday, January 6, 2005

All meetings are held at the Municipal Facility at
201 Acacia Drive. All residents are welcomed!

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at a cost of \$20.00 per book. These make
great holiday gifts! Please contact Chris at
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TEEPEE TOPICS

Congratulations to Chara Dubin, 15 years old, of Indian Head Park, who became the youngest person to earn and be awarded a 5th degree black belt in the martial art of Tae Kwon Do, recognized by the World Marital Arts Federation. With this accomplishment, she has earned the honor of the title "Master". Chara, a sophomore at Lyons Township High School, has been practicing Tae Kwon Do since the age of 4 under Grand Master Jae Park at Lions Tae Kwon Do in the Indian Head Park Plaza. Needless to say, her parents, Wayne and Denise, are very proud of her accomplishments.

The South East Association for Special Parks and Recreation (S.E.A.S.P.A.R.), provides year-round recreation services for individuals with disabilities. Registration for programs and events for S.E.A.S.P.A.R.'s winter-spring 2005 season begins Saturday, January 8, 2005 at the Downers Grove Park District Recreation and Fitness Center. For fur-

ther details regarding upcoming events, please contact the S.E.A.S.P.A.R. offices at (630) 960-7600.

We welcome a new business to Indian Head Park. The UPS Store located at 6688 Joliet Road, in the Brookside Plaza recently opened for business. The UPS Store offers a variety of products and services aimed at helping customers save time, including full-service packaging and document finishing. The UPS Store is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Also, a new business was established in our neighboring community. LaGrange Wine and Cheese Shop located at 14 Calendar Court in LaGrange recently held a grand opening. The proprietor is our very own resident, Judy LaBelle.

Our deepest sympathies are extended to the families and friends of residents who recently departed: Anton P. Pisto.

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